

REMARKS

Claims 67-75 are subject to a nonstatutory double patenting rejection. Claims 67-75 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,988,095 (“Srinivasan”). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Interview Summary

Applicants’ undersigned representative, Mr. Eiferman, and Examiner Fleurantin participated in a telephonic interview on September 13, 2006 to discuss the above claim amendments. Examiner Fleurantin stated that the above claim amendments more clearly described the claimed subject matter.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 67-75 are subject to a nonstatutory double patenting rejection. Claims 67-75 are hereby cancelled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the nonstatutory double patenting rejection rejections are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 67-75 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,988,095 (“Srinivasan”). Claims 67-75 are hereby cancelled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections are respectfully requested.

New Claims 76-84

New independent claims 76, 79 and 82 are directed to pre-fetching data for a particular attribute from all objects in an object set. For example, if an application requests Attribute B of Object 4 (See Fig. 3), then data for Attribute B will be identified and retrieved from all objects in object set 310 (including Objects 3, 4, 5, and N). However, only Attribute B for Object 4 will be returned to the application. Attribute B for Objects 3, 5, and N will be placed in a cache for future use.

Srinivasan is directed to converting object queries to relational queries. Srinivasan mentions that entire objects can be pre-fetched by specifying an object in a pre-fetch path and

then converting the pre-fetch path to a set of relational queries that retrieve data for the entire object. Srinivasan does not teach or suggest pre-fetching individual attributes of objects.

Thus, Srinivasan does not teach or suggest the following steps recited in new independent claims 76, 79 and 82:

- using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to the first attribute of other objects in the set of objects;
- retrieving the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects; and
- placing in cache the data corresponding to the first attribute of the other objects in the set of objects for future use.

Thus, Applicants submit that new claims 76-84, including independent claims 76, 79 and 82, are patentable over Srinivasan.

New Claims 85-93

New independent claims 85, 88 and 91 are directed to pre-fetching data for all non-requested attributes in an object. For example, if an application requests Attribute B of Object 4 (See Fig. 3), then data for all Attributes (including Attributes A, B, C, D and E) of Object 4 will be identified and retrieved. However, only Attribute B for Object 4 will be returned to the application. Attributes A, C, D and E will be placed in a cache for future use.

Srinivasan is directed to converting object queries to relational queries. Srinivasan mentions that objects can be pre-fetched by specifying an object in a pre-fetch path and then converting the pre-fetch path to a set of relational queries that retrieve data for the entire object. Srinivasan does not teach or suggest pre-fetching individual attributes of objects.

Thus, Srinivasan does not teach or suggest the following steps recited in new independent claims 85, 88 and 91:

- using the structure context description to identify data corresponding to other attributes of the object;
- retrieving the data corresponding to other attributes of the object; and
- placing in cache the data corresponding to other attributes of the object for future use.

Thus, Applicants submit that new claims 85-93, including independent claims 85, 88 and 91, are patentable over Srinivasan.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added in the above amendments. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application.

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